

# 金輪通訊

## Gold Wheel Sagely Monastery Newsletter

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# 宣公上人 偈頌。 大悲咒 娑婆訶

禮而未禮修無修 空泯所空有何求 看破放下真自在 逍遙法界任優遊

Verse on the Seventy-Fifth line "SWO PE HE"

of the *Great Compassion Mantra*Composed by the Venerable Master Hsuan Hua:

Bowing without having bowed; practice with no concept of practice.

Realizing even emptiness is empty, what is there to seek?

Seeing through it all and putting it down is true freedom.

Roaming throughout the Dharma Realm we can do as we please.

### 本期内容

- 2 佛説四十二章經淺釋
- 4 高僧傳—道安法師
- 8 佛學研討會記實一由戒殺放生談起
- 11 菩提道上種菩提
- 13 参加佛七之感應與體會

### **Table of Contents**

- 2 The Sutra in Forty-two Sections Spoken by the Buddha
- 4 Dharma Master Dao An
- 8 An Open Discussion of Buddhism: Starting with Liberating Life and Not Killing
- 11 Planting Bodhi Seeds in a Bodhi Path
- 13 Lessons and Responses from the Seven-day Buddha Recitation Session

# The Sutra in Forty-two Sections Spoken by the Buddha

A Simple Explanation by the Venerable Master Hsuan Hua

一九七四平宣化上人讲於美國加州三藩市金山聖寺

Lectures by the Venerable Master Hsuan Hua given at Gold Mountain Monastery, San Francisco, California, in 1974

(接上期)

(Continued from issue #161)

#### Section 24

## Sexual Desire Obstructs the Way

The Buddha said, "Of all longings and desires, there is none as strong as sex. Sexual desire has no equal. Fortunately, it is one of a kind. If there were something else like it, no one in the entire world would be able to cultivate the Way."

The twenty-fourth section speaks of people's thoughts of sexual desire. If you are able to cut off sexual desire, it will be easy for you to realize the fruition of Arhatship. Unfortunately, it is not at all easy to cut it off. All living beings have this problem. According to the *Shurangama Sutra*. "If you cannot renounce thoughts of sexual desire, you cannot transcend the dust of the world." If you can't get rid of sexual desire, then you will not be able to realize Arhatship.

The Buddha said, "Of all longings and desires, there is none as strong as sex." Here, "longings and desires" refer to sexual desire, that is, to the mind of lust. There is nothing more powerful than attraction to the opposite sex. Sexual desire has no equal. It is so strong that there is nothing more powerful than this kind of emotional desire. Fortunately, it is one of a kind. If there were something else like it, no one in the entire world would be able to cultivate the Way. Luckily, sexual desire is unique. If there were something else equal to it,

## 第二十四章

## 色欲障道

佛言。愛欲莫甚於色。色之爲欲。 其大無外。賴有一矣。若使二同。 普天之人。無能爲道者矣。

第二十四章講的是淫欲心, 淫欲心若是斷了,一定會證果, 證得阿羅漢果。可惜這是不容易 斷的,所有的眾生都有這是不養 病。所以在《楞嚴經》上說:「淫 不除,塵不可出。」欲心若 不除去,你就不能證得阿羅漢 果。



## 第二十五章

## 欲火燒身

佛言。愛欲之人。猶如執炬。逆 風而行。必有燒手之患。

這是第二十五章,說明了愛 欲是不可以接近的,不可以接近 愛欲的這種情形。

then none of the living beings in the entire world would be able to cultivate the Way. It is difficult enough with just one obstruction like this; two together would simply devour people, and no one would be able to cultivate. Another illustration of this is when women get confused by desire for women, and when men get confused by desire for men. Men and women both engage in homosexual conduct: men have homosexual relationships with men, and women have homosexual relationships with women. It all amounts to being confused by sexual desire.

### Section 25

### The Fire of Desire Burns

The Buddha said, "A person with love and desire is like one who carries a torch while walking against the wind; he is certain to burn his hand."

The twenty-fifth section explains why one must stay away from love and desire.

The Buddha said, "A person with love and desire is like one who carries a torch while walking against the wind." A person who always indulges in emotional love and desire, who goes along with his emotional desires and lustful thoughts, is like one who holds a burning torch while walking against the wind. He is certain to burn his hand. His hand is certain to get burned. Now, burning one's hand may not be such a great problem, but I'm afraid he will burn up his entire body. Therefore, in such a situation it's best to simply stay away from these things.

(To be continued ... )



## Records of High Sanghans

--錄自百日禪--

1971 宣公上人開示於美國舊金山佛教講堂

# 道安湖



## Dharma Master Dao An

Excerpt from the *Hundred-day Chan Session*Lectured by the Venerable Master Hsuan Hua at the Buddhist Lecture Hall in San Francisco, 1971

(接上期)

 (Continued from issue #161)

Dharma Master Dao An studied the Buddhadharma when he was young. When he was twenty years old, he began to lecture on the Sutras and speak the Dharma. Next, he drew near to Master Fwo Tu Cheng, a sage who had already certified to the fruition of Arhatship and had great spiritual penetrations. As soon as he saw Master Dao An, he was particularly pleased and said, "Oh, you've come. I've been waiting for you for a long time." His words "I've been waiting for you for a long time," prove that Dharma Master Dao An was no ordinary person.

The two Masters then began to converse with great interest. They talked for a whole day and night without stopping to eat or even take a drink of water. At that time, the disciples of Master Fwo Tu Cheng became jealous. They said to their teacher: "He's such an ugly monk. What in the world are you talking to him about?" Master Fwo Tu Cheng replied: "Although he is an ugly monk, still you don't equal him. He's not an ordinary

有時候佛圖澄講經說法, 就叫道安法師來給扶小座,什 廖叫扶小座呢?就是教他們 tutelage (由道安法師教導他 們」。道安法師辯才無礙,這 一些人都不佩服他,但是對他 也沒有法子。爲什麼不佩服 他?因爲他是新來的法師。以 前跟著佛圖澄十幾年的那些 學生,都沒有他這麼好的辯 才,但是都要和他來辯,雖然 辯不過他,也要強辯。常常是 這樣來爲法辯論,但是一辯 論,就輸給道安法師了。所以 這叫『漆道人,驚四鄰』。『漆 道人』,漆道人就是一個黑和 尚,黑顏色修道的人;『驚四 鄰 1,四鄰就是四座。這位道 安法師,他的像貌雖然醜陋; 但是他的心性非常的美麗。所 以,當時一些做官的人都皈依 他,一些有學問的人,文人也 都皈依他。因為他的學問好, 智慧也大,一般有名的人士就 來親近他、來供養他,各處就 請他去講經說法。這一個節度 person!" Even though he explained it to them, the several hundred Bhikshus and Bhikshunis who had drawn near to him were jealous when they saw Master Fwo Tu Cheng being so good to Dharma Master Dao An. Why is it that people who cultivate do not certify to sagehood and become enlightened? It is because of jealousy. If they weren't jealous, they would not be far from enlightenment and certification to the fruit.

Sometimes when Master Fwo Tu Cheng lectured on the Sutras and spoke the Dharma, he would tell Dharma Master Dao An to tutor and teach the junior-seated monks. When he lectured, Dharma Master Dao An's eloquence was unobstructed, but nevertheless, the disciples of Master Fwo Tu Cheng had no respect for him. Still, there was nothing they could do about him. They didn't respect him because he was a newcomer and some of them had been with Master Fwo Tu Cheng for decades, so they all debated with him. When they could not out-debate him, they still wanted to force the issue. They continually argued with him. But every time there was a discussion, they had to give in to Dharma Master Dao An because none of them could match his eloquence.

Therefore, he became known as the "Black Lacquer Cultivator of the Way Who Startled the Neighbors of the Four Directions." "Black Lacquer Cultivator of the Way" meant a black monk, a black Cultivator of the Way. The "Neighbors of the Four Directions" referred to the four kinds of seated monks at the time. Although Dharma Master Dao An's appearance was ugly, his mind and nature were extremely beautiful, and many officials and scholars took refuge with him. He was a learned man with great wisdom, so people of that time who were renowned far and near would draw near to him and request him to lecture the Sutras and speak the Dharma. This official would request him to lecture, and then that minister 使〔做官的,好像做省長〕請他去講經,那一個節度使也請他去講經,他沒有一天間著的時候,每一天都是在講經的時候,每一天都是在講經、說法。親近他的這一些門人都是的什麼地方,無論到什麼地方,都沒有了名以上,所以他的名譽沒有人不知道。

當時有一位隱士,就是 『隱居以求其志,行意以達其 道』。隱遁的人,什麼也不貪, 什麼也不求的。這麼一個人, 也是研究佛法的,叫習鑿齒, 他不是一位牙醫,不過是叫這 麼一個名字,來見道安法師。 道安法師説:「你貴姓啊?」 他說:「你還不知道我?四海 習鑿齒,四海,四個大海,就 是表示什麼人都知道他,你還 問我。道安法師說:「哦!你 是四海習鑿齒,你知道我是誰 啊?」「嘿嘿!」習鑿齒說: 「你,你是道安法師。」他說: 「我是啊!我是『彌天釋道 安』, 彌天就是滿天。他是個 四海,他就是個彌天,彌天正 遮蓋著他這個四海。當時,一 般人認為這是一個最好的問 答,最有名的一個問答。

還有一次,道安法師各處去講經說法,翻譯經典,是在鳩摩羅什法師這個時候,鳩摩羅什法師在印度就知道,中國有這麼一位『彌天釋道安』,他就在说這一定是位聖人。所以就在

would request him to lecture, until soon there was never a day when he did not lecture the Sutras and speak the Dharma. At least five hundred disciples accompanied the Master wherever he went. The Master's reputation was so widespread that there was no one who didn't recognize him.

At that time there was a hermit. A hermit is one who "lives in seclusion to seek his goal and cultivate his thoughts toward attaining the Way." People who live in seclusion are not greedy for anything. They seek nothing. This person's name was Hsi Tso Chih and he too studied and investigated the Buddhadharma. Although his name means "to practice drilling teeth", he was not a dentist. He was just called that. One day, he went to see Dharma Master Dao An. "What is your name?" Dharma Master Dao An asked. "You don't know who I am? Within the four seas, it's Hsi Tso Chih." He mentioned the "four seas" to boast that everyone knew him. Why even bother to ask? "Oh," replied Dharma Master Dao An, "So you're 'Hsi Tso Chih within the four seas.' Do you know who I am?" "Ha ha!" replied Hsi Tso Chih, "You? You're Dharma Master Dao An." Dharma Master Dao An then said, "Me? Filling the skies, it's Shih Dao An." He filled the heavens, while Hsi Tso Chih was within the four seas. Of course, what fills the skies covers the four seas, so everyone saw it as a fine rebuttal. This became a famous conversation.

On one occasion, Dharma Master Dao An traveled extensively lecturing the Sutras and speaking the Dharma, and eventually, Dharma Master Kumarajiva, who was still in India at the time, heard that in China there was a Dharma Master who "filled the skies," named Shih Dao An. Dharma Master Kumarajiva then said that the Master must be a sage, and he began to

印度,天天給他頂禮九拜,拜 這位釋道安,後來他去龜茲、 罽賓那一帶,每一天都向道安 法師頂禮九叩首。他希望到中 國來見一見道安法師,但是他 沒到中國以前,道安法師已經 往生了。

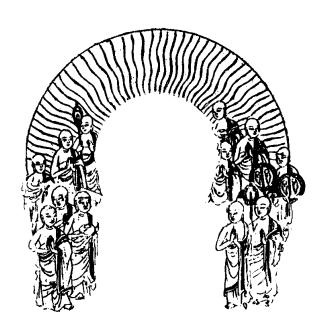
(下期待績)

bow nine times every day to Dharma Master Dao An. Later he went to Kucha and Kashmir, and still continued to bow nine times to Dharma Master Dao An. He hoped that he could come to China to see Dharma Master Dao An, but before he could arrive, Dharma Master Dao An had gone off to rebirth.

(To be continued ...)

### (上承自第10頁)

營不久,家產便敗光了,眼看 他起高樓,眼看他樓塌了。因 果報應,屢試不爽,怎不令人 心生警惕!



#### (Continued from Page 10)

business crashed. It was as if in a flash a building was raised high; in the next flash the building collapsed. The retribution from cause and effect is never off by the slightest bit. How can we not give rise in our minds to caution?

It is stated in the Avatamsaka Sutra, "Living beings love their lives the most. All Buddhas love living beings the most. If we can save the lives of living beings, then we can fulfill the wishes of all Buddhas." All living beings are equal. All are endowed with the Buddha nature. If all people refrain from killing and observe a vegetarian diet, coupled with expansive liberation of life, then peace and harmony will govern heaven and earth. All the myriad creatures will enjoy purity. Each one will complete its natural length of life. Goodness will prevail. All the Buddhas will be delighted. The practice of the way will naturally be accomplished.



# 佛學研討會記書一由戒殺放生談起

## An Open Discussion of Buddhism: Starting with Liberating Life and Not Killing

大智度論云:「諸餘罪中, 殺業最重,諸功德中,放生第 一。」所有罪業中,以殺業最 重,因爲眾生最珍貴的是自己 的生命。殺了他,怨結得最深; 救了他,感激得也最深。

 The Treatise on the Great Perfection of Wisdom stated: "Amongst all offenses, the karmic offenses from killing are most weighty. Of all meritorious practices, liberating life is foremost. All living beings treasure their lives. That is why the offenses created by acts of killing are the heaviest. When you kill a living being, the enmity created is very deep. When you rescue a living being, the gratitude that evolves is similarly deep."

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, Gold Wheel Monastery conducted the monthly Dharma Assembly of Liberating Life. Under the auspices of the Dharma Masters, the laity and students of Gold Wheel Monastery Chinese School joined in renewing the lives of hundreds of fish by reciting the Buddha's name, speaking the Dharma, and transmitting the Three Refuges to the fish. After receiving the blessings of the Triple Jewel of the Buddha, the Dharma and the Sangha and upon the ripening of their causal conditions, these creatures will be able to obtain prompt deliverance from suffering, forever leaving the pain of the cycle of the Six Paths, obtaining rebirth in the Western Land of Ultimate Bliss. This is indeed the greatest essence and meaning of "liberating life."

In reality, every living being undergoing reincarnation from time immemorial has been in one life or another our parent, our child, our sibling, relative or even possibly our enemy. Due to differences in our karmic conditions, we were luckily born as human beings, and they unfortunately were born as animals. By liberating life, we can now rescue our friends and relatives of many kalpas past and give them a renewed opportunity to live and peacefully complete their years. This way, enmities can be dissolved, karma eradicated, and there will be natural peace and harmony. This is the inevitable principle of cause and

歷代祖師無不積極提倡戒殺 放生,以積福行善,故諸功德中,莫過於此。

法會結束後,在恆是法師主 持下,便開始研討戒殺放生之 因果道理。座中文老居士首先 發言 娓娓道來殺業受報的實 證。文居士曾有位朋友,原本 家庭幸福美滿 。數年前偶然間 捕獲一隻大鳥龜,卻聽信人 言,烏龜營養滋補,至爲稀有 難得。於是將牠宰殺烹煮,全 家人分而食之。自此之後,這 家人幾無寧日,橫事連連。先 是兒子車禍身亡,接著事業失 敗,瀕臨破產,妻離子散。究 其根由,只為貪一時的口腹之 慾,造了殺業,承受苦果。眾 所皆知,自古以來烏龜即被視 爲吉祥之物,極具靈性,象徵 著長壽,忍辱負重的精神,甚 爲人們喜愛,何忍烹食之?

 effect. Successive generations of Patriarchs never fail to expound on the practice of liberating life and not killing as a way to accrue blessings and perform wholesome deeds. Therefore, amongst all meritorious practices, there is none that surpasses liberating life.

After the conclusion of the Dharma Assembly, Dharma Master Shr began an open forum to discuss the principles of cause and effect surrounding not killing and liberating life. Elderly Layperson Wen narrated to everyone a true-to-life account of retribution resulting from killing. Layperson Wen used to have a friend who originally had a happy family. One day, he caught a huge turtle. Believing in what others said about the nutritional value of turtles and their rarity, he killed the turtle and cooked it. The entire family partook of the turtle dish. After that time, the family never had a day of peace. Disasters and calamities followed, one after another. First, the son died in a car accident. Next, the family business failed and collapsed. All family members went their separate ways. Returning to the original cause of all this, for a fleeting moment to satisfy the desire of the mouth, killing karma was created, leading to a bitter end. As many people know, from days of old until now, turtles have been regarded as auspicious creatures -- possessing spiritual natures, symbolizing longevity and exhibiting the spirit of patience and endurance, They have always been well-loved by people. To cook and eat them is quite unthinkable.

Another layperson retold the experience of bringing the fishes and turtles to the lake to set them free after the Dharma Assembly of Liberating Life. When the fishes and turtles were being set free amidst recitation of the Buddha's name, they could be seen turning their heads back to look at the kind individuals giving them a new life. Without any words, they were transmitting their deep sense of gratitude by subtly nodding their heads and periodically looking back until they were submerged in the water. It was a very touching scene. People love their lives; animals love their lives, too. Every life is equally precious. People should be kind and compassionate. All living beings should be treated with equanimity. With regards to the pathetic plight of Layperson Wen's friend, Dharma Master Shr suggested that this unfortunate family should set up a 時,為這一隻烏龜設牌位,誠心懺悔,為其超度,以解冤釋 結,或許可以災橫消除。

接著張果卿居士發言, 張居士説她曾有位朋友,喜歡 養魚,將五彩繽紛的魚兒,養 在魚缸裡 閒來賞玩,過不久, 這家人便諸事不順,身心不 寧。於是在佛友們的建議下, 將這些魚兒送了回去。此後, 這家人生活才恢復平静。「魚 兒水中游,鳥兒空中遊。」這 是牠們自然的本性,誰願意失 去自由的被困在水缸裡,或囚 在鳥籠裡,任人賞玩?上人 説:「今生你缚繫網捕他人, 令其失去自由,來日你就枷鎖 上身,受同樣的果報。」所謂 「因緣會遇時,果報還自受。」 因果報應,如影隨形,能不戒 慎小心嗎?而且除了戒殺放 生外,更要護生。儒教亦云: 「親親而仁民 仁民而愛物。」 其「民胞物與」的悲憫胸懷, 更將「護生」之道,發揮無遺。

此外,恆是法師亦提及 她有一位親戚,從事烤肉 [B. B.Q]器皿的生意,由於經營 成功,財源廣進,風光一時。 無奈錢財來路不清淨,所從事 的行業與殺業有關,雖非直接 殺生,但它助長了人們的口腹 之慾,間接造了殺因。所以經

(下轉至第7頁)

plaque for the turtle during the Dharma Assembly of the Jeweled Repentance of Emperor Lyang. They should repent and reform with honest sincerity to be able to help cross over the turtle and to untangle the knotted bonds of enmity. This way, perhaps they can eradicate their disasters and calamities.

Then, right afterward, Layperson Tsang gave an account about her friend who loved to raise colorful fishes for fun in his aquarium. After a short time, the family felt that their lives were not running smoothly, that they had no peace of mind or body. Following the advice of Buddhist friends, he set the fishes in his aquarium free. After that, the family's lives went back on track. "Fishes swim in the water; birds fly in the air." This is their nature. Who wants to be cooped up in an aquarium or a cage, at the mercy of some fun-loving fool? Venerable Master Hua said, "If in this life you capture other living beings and hold them in captivity, causing them to lose their freedom, in future lives you will endure being in shackles, undergoing a similar mode of retribution." As the saying goes, "When causal conditions come together, each being has to undergo his own retribution." The workings of cause and effect are like a shadow constantly following an object. How can we not be extremely cautious? In addition to prohibiting killing and liberating life, we should also protect life. The Confucian teachings advocated the practice of being kind and humane to one's family, then extending it to society, and eventually encompassing all animal creatures. The great magnanimity of such conduct further expands the scope of protecting life.

Dharma Master Shr also gave an account of her relative who was engaged in the business of selling barbecue equipment and utensils. Due to a boom in his business, wealth poured in, and he was prestigious for the time being. Unfortunately, the source of his wealth was indirectly connected to the karma of killing. Even though he did not actively take part in killing, he readily gave his support to satisfying people's desire to eat barbecued meat. After a short while, his

(Continuing on page 7)

## 菩提道上種菩提

## Planting Bodhi Seeds in a Bodhi Path



上人說:「小孩子如小樹 枝般長大,枝椏七、八,必須 砍去横枝, 將來才會成為棟樑 之材。」上人一生重視教育, 認為佛教的根本就是教育,而 教育必須要由幼童上來著手。 因童稚天真無邪,易於陶鑄, 教導他們正確的思想,養成健 全的人格,方能為人類帶來福 祉。所謂「養蒙以正,聖功也。」 是以古來教育即被視為神聖 而偉大的志業,尤其是幼童的 啓蒙教育,更爲聖人所重視。 上人秉持此一信念,創辦學 校,主張「走到那裡,那裡就 是學校。」並且均以「育良小 學」、「培徳中學」為學校命 名,重視以倫理道德爲基礎的 人格教育。

九月八日是金輪寺育良 小學開學日,家長們一大早便 带著小朋友來報名。氣氛熱鬧 而温馨, 章稚天真活潑的笑 語,為莊嚴肅穆的道場,增添 幾許的生氣和活力。

金輪寺育良小學,學生人 數不多,是由二十幾位小朋 友,和七、八位發心的義務老

The Venerable Master Hua said, "Children grow like little branches. When the branch extends in all directions, you have to prune the side twigs. The branch will then become a valuable trunk." Throughout his whole life, The Venerable Master attached much importance to education. He believed that the essence of Buddhism is education and should begin with youngsters. That is because they are naïve, innocent, and easier to sculpt. If they are taught the proper ideas to build flawless characters, they can then bring bliss to human beings.

It has been said "Raising children properly is worthy of a sage." Hence, education has been viewed as a holy and noble profession since ancient times. In particular, sages have gauged the instruction of young children of high importance. The Venerable Master held this belief, founded schools, and advocated the idea of "wherever I go, it is a school." He named all his schools "Instilling Goodness Elementary School" or "Developing Virtue Secondary School." He gave highest consideration to morality and ethics as fundamental to teaching character.

September 8 was the first day of the school year at Gold Wheel Temple Instilling Goodness Elementary School. Parents brought their children to the temple early in the morning to apply for admission. The atmosphere was warm and thriving. Young children's innocent and lively laughter added a feeling of energy and vigor to the dignified and solemn way-place.

There are not many students in the Gold Wheel Temple's Instilling Goodness Elementary School. The big family, under the lead of the head nun Dharma Master Heng Shr, consists of twenty or so

師,在當家恆是法師的帶領下,組成的一個大家庭,堪稱「小而美」、「小而精」。

這些小小菩提苗,沐浴港, 洋紅和的道場裡,經新達裡,經新達裡,經明華子會,來日必是社會標準,來日必是社會,為實力, 不是是一个人提倡教育, 不是是一个人提倡教育, 不是是一个人,是一个人,不是一个人,不是一个人,不是一个人,不是一个人,不是一个人,不是一个人。

children and seven to eight volunteer teachers. It can be described as "little yet appealing" or "small yet superb."

Children receive gentle care from their teachers. They learn basic and proper ways of being a person, such as being filial to parents and respecting teachers and elders. The Dharma Masters' prudent and tidy living and conduct prove to be their best examples. Immersed in this environment, each child is gentle, polite, full of life, and lovable.

The curriculum was designed to incorporate both active and quiet programs. Classes include Sutra recitation, Sutra appreciation, and meditation. They capture the children's body and mind, free their anxiety, and open up their wisdom. Another class is Buddhist songs. Through gentle, clean, and pure Buddhist music, children are able to purify their minds and cultivate their personalities. It also promotes the understanding of non-killing and being a vegetarian. It nourishes their compassionate and grateful minds.

These little Bodhi sprouts, enriched by purity and a peaceful way place, are carefully planted and watered. Once the seeds are sprouted, their good roots will grow. They can become people of tremendous promise to the society one day and bring peace to the world. This was the Venerable Master's idea behind promoting education and setting up schools.

Here, we deeply hope that more Bodhi sprouts join our big family, to grow together, and to accomplish together!







# 參加佛七之感應與體會



## Lessons and Responses from the Seven-day Buddha Recitation Session

### 郭果忠 By Gwo-Jung Kuo

感恩法師賜予佛七前出坡機會,無意中做好打七之準備。如從「靜」中記次唸佛,轉於「動」中唸佛,朝動靜一如之方向邁進。並於忙碌工作中減少許多妄想心,增進清淨心及練好打七的體力與耐力。謝謝法師巧妙苦心安排。

### 佛七感應如下:

一、佛七前之腰酸腹痛,居然 於佛七開始時不藥而癒。

二、久未盤坐,然佛七期間能 結雙跏趺坐。尤其同修果足也 能如是,不可思議。

三 雖早起晚睡,可法喜充滿, 身心愉快,不覺疲倦。同修果 足平常隱藏爆發式之頭痛,未 曾出現。誠應法師所言,我們 傾位此次撿到大便宜。

四、時有聞香,口常似飲甘露水。

五、最後第二天,於睡前及眠中,耳邊自然響起唸佛之聲, 餘音圍繞。

此次佛七期間,法師常 於重要時刻諄諄善導。如:大 勢至菩薩之「都攝六根,淨念 I am very grateful for the opportunity provided me by the Dharma Master to do some community service prior to the Seven-day Buddha Session. Inadvertently, this helped a lot preparatory for the session, eg. from taking counts of silent recitation to continuous recitation amidst activity. This leads the way to maintaining uniformity in motion and non-motion alike. In addition, the physical activities incorporated in the community service helped ease a lot of discursive thoughts and promote a sense of purity. The physical stamina and endurance were also built up in time for the Session. Again, I am very grateful for the wonderful arrangement painstakingly set forth by the Dharma Master.

Below is a list of some responses I obtained from the Session:

- 1. The lower back pain and stomach ache that I have been experiencing prior the Session completely disappeared without any medication from the time the Session started.
- 2. It has been a long time since I sat in full lotus position, yet I was able to maintain in full lotus position during the Session. My co-cultivator, Gwo Tzu, was able to do the same, too. This is truly inconceivable.
- 3. Even though we have to rise early and retire late at night during the Session, we felt the joy in the Dharma, and were physically and mentally delighted, not feeling tired at all. Co-cultivator, Gwo Tzu, regularly suffers from migraine headache. Yet during this Session, she did not have any episodes of such. What the Dharma Master said was very true, ie. the two of us had gotten a very good deal.
- 4. At times, I smelled the fragrance of the incense. My mouth oftentimes savored the sweet dew.
- 5. In the second to the last day, before sleeping and while sleeping, the sounds of Buddha recitation continuously rang through my ears.

During the Seven-day Buddha Session, the Dharma Master always imparted valuable guidance in every opportune moment. An example of which is Great Strength Bodhisattva's "Gathering-in the Six Faculties, purifying the mind in suc相繼」。觀相唸佛如貓捉老 鼠。於閉眼、開眼時佛像皆 同。身體可以疲倦,道心不 能退失。要抖擻精神,勇猛 精進。及於最後一天督促 大眾不要鬆散, 以免前功 盡棄。加上額外萬聲佛號 功課,及大眾更能充分利 用時間,行、住、坐、臥不 時唸佛。以上等等,均令大 眾更能如法攝心唸佛,感 謝法師。尚有每晚大迴向, 師父開示:「要有萬分之萬 的誠心」,及法師提示大迴 向,「如同參加大考試,更 要比平時用功、專注,才不 會功敗垂成。|因之大眾都 特别提神關注,覺得特别 殊勝,時間短促,倦意全 消,身心愉快。

cession." Contemplate the Buddha recitation like a cat chasing a mouse. Whether one's eyes are open or shut, the image of the Buddha should stay the same. The physical body may feel tired, but the Bodhi resolve should not diminish. Strike up our efforts; forge ahead with diligence and vigor. Up to the last day of the Session, the Dharma Master kept a close watch on all of us, not wishing us to lax off and wasting all efforts we had put in the days before. Besides the regular agenda in the daily schedule of the Seven-day Buddha Recitation Session, there is a mandatory homework of completing ten thousand Buddha recitations on your own during break periods. This requirement helped everybody utilize their time to its fullest, and not departing from mindfulness of the Buddha in all four modes of deportment – walking, standing, sitting, reclining. All activities aforementioned reinforced the purpose of gatheringin our mind and focusing in Buddha Recitation. I'd like to extend our gratitude to the Dharma Master for this. In the course of the Seven-day Buddha Recitation Session, we had the Great Transference every night. Venerable Master Hua had instructed, "You must have the most utmost sincerity." Dharma Master also reminded everybody about significance of the Great transference. She said, "Compare it to taking a big exam. Be extra focused and diligent. Do not let your efforts go down the drain." With this, all participants were more attentive. Everybody felt the special sense of auspiciousness and the limitations of time. Tiredness flew out the window. Our body and mind were joyous.

The Seven-day Buddha Recitation Session this time did increase my resolve for Bodhi. My faith and vow in the Pureland Dharma Door become more strengthened. As Great Master Yin Gwang had said, "The Pureland Dharma Door emphasizes in faith and vow. If you are replete with faith and vow, you can obtain rebirth even if you are not sufficiently single-minded. Without faith and vow, you can not obtain rebirth even if you are single-minded." For this reason, I sincerely hope that all fellow cultivators in Gold Wheel Monastery do not pass up the opportunity to attend Buddha Recitation Sessions. It is for our own accumulation of resources, to replete ourselves of faith, vow and various causal conditions. Then, we are relying on the Buddhas's kindness and compassion in not deserting any living being, to gather all of us into rebirth. Thereafter, we should take the compassionate trip back to the Saha World to rescue living beings. Let us be each other's encouragement. Amitofo!



11/17/2002 SUNDAY 星期日

誠摯邀請平滿六十五歲的長者蒞臨。因名 額有限,請及早向本寺電話報名,額滿為 止。

Seniors 65 and above are cordially invited. Due to limited space, please register ahead of time to ensure reservation. Please call Gold Wheel Monastery as soon as possible.





時間:早上た點至下午一點

地點:金輪聖寺

節目:袁宴,合唱,演奏等。

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Place: Gold Wheel Sagely Monastery Activities: Delicious Vegetarian Banquet,

Choir, Performances, etc.



## Dharma Realm Buddhist Association Gold Wheel Sagely Monastery

235 North Avenue 58, Los Angeles, CA 90042

**Telephone:** (323) 258-6668





### 2002年11月法會時間表 Schedule of Events - November of 2002

∃Sun	—Mon	二Tue	∃Wed	四Thu	五Fri	六Sat
◎ 禮拜大悲懺 Great Compassion Repentance 1:00 pm					1⊚	2⊚
3 慶祝藥師佛聖誕 Celebration of Medicine Master Buddha's Birthday 8:00 am - 3:00 pm	4⊚	5⊚ 初一	6 ◎	7⊚	8 🔾	9⊚
10 楞嚴法會 Dharma Assembly of Shurangama Mantra 8:00 am	11⊚	12⊚	13©	14◎ 初十 宣公上人涅槃 每月紀念日 Monthly Memorial Day of Venerable Master Hua's Entering Nirvana	15©	16©
17 慶祝敬老節 Celebration of Respecting Elders Day 9:00 am - 1:00 pm	18©	19⊚ +±	20◎ 彌陀同願會念佛共修 Buddha Recitation Group: Cherishing The Same Vows As Amitabha Buddha's 7:00-9:00 pm	21©	22©	23©
24 楞嚴法會 Dharma Assembly of Shurangama Mantra 8:00 am - 3:00 pm 放生法會 Liberating Life Ceremony 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm	25⊚	26⊚	27⊚ 彌陀同願會念佛共修 Buddha Recitation Group: Cherishing The Same Vows As Amitabha Buddha's 7:00-9:00 pm	28⊚	29⊚	30⊚